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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. On 2 March 1954, a farewell ceremony was given at the Postal and Telecommunications Ministry (MPF) for Dr Wilhelm Schroeder, State Secretary at the MPF, who left the Ministry because he had accepted a professorship for Postal Affairs at the Dresden Institute for Technology. Schroeder was replaced by Kurt Gebhardt who was introduced as first deputy to the Minister. Johannes Gruetzmacher, a former SED secretary, was made second deputy to the Minister, and Egon Ziegler was appointed chief of the Main Administration for Telecommunication Techniques.
2. Prior to March 1954 there had been a tendency to cut the 1954 state investments in the field of telecommunications, but in early 1954, the PS department submitted a supplementary budget envisaging an additional investment of 418,000 eastmarks for the telephone net of the GDR.
3. [redacted] the MPF was ordered to keep available for February 1954 a sum of 5,000,000 eastmarks for the compensation of financial losses incurred by departments of the MPF. For the first time, losses were incurred by the office for trunk lines. In December 1953, the Finance Ministry refused to make available to the MPF the sum of 20,000 eastmarks as requested in connection with the planned postal conference in Leipzig.
4. Between mid-1953 and late 1953, the Bauunion [redacted] in Potsdam had received orders for postal and telecommunications agencies in Zossen, Zehlendorf, and Granses, the radio engineering plant at Dabendorf, and the transmitting station at Potsdam-Golm.
5. In March 1954, Designs Bureau II in Berlin worked on orders placed by the State Radio Committee.
6. In late March 1954, the 64 long-distance communications centers existing at that time in the GDR were deactivated because they were to be replaced by 15 so-called Bezirksbauaemter (Bezirks Telecommunications Construction Offices). No decision had been made on the locations of these Bezirksbauaemter.

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- 2 -

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OPD Berlin was to be deactivated shortly. The individual departments of OPD Berlin were scheduled to be distributed among the different Bezirke of the GDR.

8. On 5 January 1954, the MFF gave orders to set up special telephone nets with the GDR Bezirksraete (parliaments functioning in the various administrative Bezirke of the GDR). Each Bezirksrat was to be provided with a magneto switchboard with connections to all chairmen of the Kreisraete (parliaments in administrative Kreise) and their deputies. This system would enable to director of a Bezirk to make conference calls to all chairmen of Kreis administrations. These special telephone nets are kept separate from the public telephone system.
9. In March 1954, 8,000 two-motion selectors were ready for delivery to China at Fernmeldewerk Arnstadt. Each of these selectors cost 192.- eastmarks. They were, however, not released for export because they did not function properly. Because the magnets of the dial system equipment had been made of free cutting steel the anchors could not be released. The German Postal Administration demanded that all magnets of the two-motion selectors be replaced.

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